

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

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DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:MWWILEY:PM

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

AF/W:JBISHOP

EUR/IB:AWLUKINS

NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S O-P JOHNSON

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R 200217Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 182106

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MO, SS, SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA

FROM THE SECRETARY

1. WE HAVE HAD ENCOURAGING TALKS WITH MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER LARAKI ON THE SPANISH SAHARA AND IT APPEARS TO ME THAT MOROCCANS WISH TO NEGOTIATE AMICABLE SETTLEMENT WITH SPAIN. WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN DETAILS OF SETTLEMENT, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO EXPRESS OUR HOPE TO THE GOS THAT THE ISSUE CAN BE SETTLED AMICABLY BY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SPAIN AND MOROCCO. WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEGUN. OUR APPROACH TO GOS SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE AND REINFORCE THESE STEPS.

2. YOU SHOULD APPROACH THE GOS AT AN APPROPRIATE
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LEVEL AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) USG HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL PARTIES WHO HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN THE FUTURE OF THE SPANISH SAHARA.

B) WE DO NOT WISH TO TAKE SIDES IN THE DISPUTE, BUT WE HOPE THE ISSUE CAN BE AMICABLY RESOLVED BY THE

INTERESTED PARTIES. WE UNDERSTAND GOS HAS INDICATED DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE ISSUE WITH GOM, AND WE WELCOME THIS.

3. IF THE GOS RAISES THE QUESTION OF ALGERIAN AND MAURITANIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS, YOU SHOULD REPLY THAT USG BELIEVES THAT SPAIN AND MOROCCO ARE THE PARTIES PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH THE FUTURE OF THE SAHARA. ANY SOLUTIONS ACHIEVED BY THESE PARTIES, HOWEVER, SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE LEGITIMATE CONCERNS OF THE OTHER NEIGHBORING STATES SO THAT THE SOLUTION WILL BE DURABLE AND NOT LEAD TO INSTABILITY IN THE AREA. KISSINGER

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